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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/250,340	02/16/1999	YIK HEI SIA	TAY-101	1943
23371	7590	07/11/2005	EXAMINER KAZIMI, HANI M	
CROCKETT & CROCKETT 24012 CALLE DE LA PLATA SUITE 400 LAGUNA HILLS, CA 92653			ART UNIT 3624	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/250,340

Applicant(s)

SIA, YIK HEI

Examiner

Hani Kazimi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on December 28, 2004. The rejections cited are as stated below:

Response to Applicant's amendment

2. Applicants' amendment filed on December 28, 2004 have been fully considered, and discussed in the next section below or within the following rejections are not deemed to be persuasive. Applicants' request for allowance is respectfully denied.

The Examiner acknowledges Applicant's cancellation to the previous presented claims and amendment to claim 41, and therefore withdraws the previous office action rejections.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 148 USPQ 459, that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or unobviousness.

5. Claim 41 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Novik et al. US Patent No. 4,972,182, (hereinafter "Novik") in view of Zampese US Patent No. 6,014,650.

Claim 41, Novik discloses a code based door opening apparatus for a safe room comprising; a portion that is inaccessible to a user for controlling access to the safe room; first means within the portion for storing a first set of codes; second means in possession of the user for storing a second set of codes, wherein when the user requires access the safe room, the second means serves as an electronic key to gain access by providing an unused code to the portion, said portion requiring an identical unused code from the first means to grant access to the safe room (abstract, column 1, line 61 thru column 3, line 42).

Even though Novik teaches that "the user may request the control circuit to generate a new code for subsequent storage within the key, whose secret is thereby immediately changed" (column 3, lines 31-42).

Novik fails to teach that the first sets of codes are automatically refreshed based upon a triggering event such that each code is used only once.

Zampese teaches "a system and method of implementing a secure purchase management system wherein a unique account code is assigned to a purchaser; a set

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of secret transaction codes are provided to the purchaser, one secret transaction code to be used for each individual purchase to be made by the purchaser; and each purchase request from a purchaser is verified to make sure it includes the purchaser's account code and a transaction code which *has not been used before* to thereby prevent unauthorized purchases and fraud" (abstract). Zampese teaches that each secret transaction code to be used once and only once (column 1, lines 56-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the Applicant's invention was made to modify the teachings of Novik to include the use of each code only once because, it provides a more secure system and prevents unauthorized access and fraud (Zampese, abstract).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hani Kazimi whose telephone number is (571) 272-6745. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-2 17-9197 (toll-free).



HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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April 18, 2005